

# **David in the Cave**

1 Samuel 22:1-2

## **1 Sam 22:1**

**Cave Adullam:** Named after the nearby city.

Valley of Elah

13 miles West of Bethlehem, David's home town.

Easton's Bible Dictionary: ... *Some of these caverns are large enough to hold 200 or 300 men.*

Jamieson... supposed to be that now called Deir-Dubban, a number of pits or underground vaults, some nearly square, and all about fifteen or twenty feet deep, with perpendicular sides, in the soft limestone or chalky rocks. ....

Conder, Tenting in Palestine, vol. 2, p. 159: ...but still more interesting was the discovery of a separate cave, on the hill itself, a low, smoke-filled, blackened burrow which was the home of a single family...

The lowest moment of David's life.

Psa 142:1-7 .... *my spirit was overwhelmed within me, ....: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.*

...5 I cried unto thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living...

Swindoll: ...When the sovereign God brings us to nothing, it is to reroute our lives, not to end them.

## **22.1b... and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him.**

Doing his best to survive

He sees a large number of family members, including his father, coming to live with him.

## **1 Sam 22:2**

Initial formation of David's army.

The Troubled.

Distress: under pressure, under stress.

The Threatened.

Debt: to lend on interest, to have a number of creditors.

The Tormented.

Discontented: bitter in soul. 1 Sam 1:10-11

David ends up with cave full of discontented, dissatisfied and disgruntled people.

Swindoll: *Can you imagine that? It's bad enough to be in there alone feeling like a worm. But to have over 400 more worms crawl in there with you, that's a mess!*

Sometimes when you're in the cave, you don't want others around.

He begins to make some very important transitions in life:

- From cave of despair to cave of hope
- From escape hatch to training ground.
- From malcontents to mighty men of valor.
- From darkness to light
- From despair to hope

Transition from being beaten down to being leader of mightiest men of Israel.

Swindoll: *David became a sort of Robin Hood. His Sherwood Forest was the rugged Judean wilderness, with its mountains, caves, and deep wadis (An oasis). There, he commanded a group of mavericks because God wanted him to become a maverick king. Israel would never see another king like David.*

Why such a major change in the direction of David's life?

1. Transparent.
2. Humble
3. Teachable

God turned cave into training center.

*Remember, the conversion of a soul is the miracle of the moment, but the making of a saint is the task of a lifetime.* Swindoll

Psa 31:1-10